

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /084 W

----- 073842

R 311245Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4974

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, TS, IR

SUBJ: IRAN-TUNISIAN RELATIONS: IRAN TO LEND \$15 MILLION TO
TUNISIA

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED - ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILIES KAYHAN AND TEHRAN JOURNAL FOR DECEMBER 29, 1975, REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED THE PREVIOUS DAY BETWEEN TUNISIAN PLAN MINISTER MOSTAFI ZANUNI AND THE GOI'S MINISTER FOR PLAN AND BUDGET ORGANIZATION MAJIDI FOR A \$15 MILLION LOAN TO TUNISIA. THE LOAN WILL BE USED TO DEFRAY A PORTION OF THE COST OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SEIDISELM DAM IN TUNISIA, A PROJECT WHICH IS ALSO BEING FINANCED BY THE IBRD AND A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THE \$15 MILLION FIGURE APPARENTLY INCLUDES AN EARLIER \$4.3 MILLION LOAN FROM IRAN FOR THE SAME PROJECT. THE SIGNING OF THE LOAN PROTOCOL CULMINATED FOUR DAYS OF MEETINGS OF THE IRAN-TUNISIA JOINT COMMISSION. THE TEHRAN JOURNAL MADE MENTION ALSO OF SUBSEQUENT TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OIL REFINERY IN TUNISIA. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE - THE TUNISIAN EMBASSY HERE NOTED THAT THE DOCUMENT SIGNED BETWEEN HE TWO MINISTERS WAS IN EFFECT A PROTOCOL AND NOT THE LOAN AGREEMENT ITSELF. THE EARLIER \$4.3
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MILLION LOAN CARRIED AN INTEREST RATE OF 2.5 PERCENT BUT THE

TUNISIAN EMBASSY FEELS CERTAIN THAT THE REMAINING \$10.7GILLION
WILL BE AT A SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER RATE. THE EMBASSY OPINED THAT
IRAN APPARENTLY WILL GET LITTLE OR NOTHING BY WAY OF BENEFIT FROM
THE LOAN, APART FROM GOOD WILL, SINCE THE LANDS TO BE IRRIGATED
BY THE DAM ARE NOT EXPECTED TO PRODUCE ANY PRODUCTS OF INTEREST
TO IRAN.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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